

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ALGIER 00283 301216Z

15

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-15

NSC-05 OES-05 OMB-01 AID-05 H-02 /079 W

----- 093937

R 301100Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1792

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS ALGIERS 0283

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, AG

SUBJ: SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS/

CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION

REF: STATE 012151

1. SECTION A: (A) NONE; (B) NONE; (C) NONE;
(D) NONE; (E) ONE CUSTOMS INSPECTOR ATTENDED DEA
ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT SCHOOL NO. 8,
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1974; (F) NONE.

2. SECTION B:

(A) SUMMARY: GOA DEDICATION TO INSULATING ALGERIA
FROM EFFECTS OF DRUG TRAFFIC HAS RESULTED IN EFFECTIVE
BORDER CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT WHICH HAVE KEPT
DOMESTIC DRUG PRODUCTION AND USAGE UNDER CONTROL.
DECEMBER/JANUARY ARRESTS OF TRAFFICKERS CARRYING
LARGE AMOUNTS OF HASHISH, ALLEGEDLY DESTINED FOR
CANADA BUT PRESUMABLY U.S. AS WELL, SUGGEST INTERNAIONAL
ORGANIZERS MAY NOW BE TESTING NEW ROUTES TO US.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ALGIER 00283 301216Z

(B) LOCAL DRUG ABUSE: ALGERIAN LAW FORBIDS PRODUCTION,

SALE, POSSESSION AND/OR USAGE OF DRUGS, INCLUDING CANNABIS. BOTH GOVERNMENT AND PARTY SERIOUS IN DESIRE TO KEEP ALGERIA FROM FALLING VICTIM TO DRUG TRAFFIC AND GIVE STATUS AND AUTHORITY TO CUSTOMS, BORDER CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. CANNABIS IS PRODUCED AND USED BY SMALL MINORITY, PRIMARILY IN SO-CALLED "TRADITIONAL" LESS-EVOLVED SECTOR OF POPULATION: ITS USE HAS NOT SPREAD. USE OF HARD DRUGS AND BARBITUATES MINIMAL. ALGERIAN NATIONAL DRUG COMMISSION HAS RECENTLY BEEN REVIEWING NATION'S DRUG LAWS TO ASSURE THEY ARE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH "OBJECTIVES AND MORALITY OF THE ALGERIAN REVOLUTION"; WHILE NO RESULTS HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED, IT IS EXPECTED THEIR DELIBERATIONS WILL RESULT IN FURTHER TIGHTENING OF ENFORCEMENT EFFORT.

(C)P PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING: N/A

(D) TRAFFICKING TRENDS: HISTORICALLY, THERE HAS BEEN NO EVIDENCE OF MAJOR INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFIC THROUGH ALGERIA. LOW LEVEL OF HASHISH SMUGGLING FROM NORTHERN MOROCCO PROBABLY OCCURRED OCCASIONALLY AND SMALL GROUPS OF HASHISH PEDDLERS HAVE OCCASIONALLY BEEN ARRESTED WITHIN ALGERIA. HOWEVER, IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY ALGERIAN BORDER AUTHORITIES HAVE ARRESTED SOME FORTY FOREIGNERS TRANSPORTING OVER TWO METRIC TONS OF HASHISH IN CARS FROM MOROCCO. THE HASHISH WAS PURCHASED IN THE KETTAMA REGION OF MOROCCO AND WAS BEING TRANSPORTED BY COURIERS OF DIFFERING NATIONALITIES IN VARYING AMOUNTS DESTINED FOR WESTERN EUROPE (PRINCIPALLY AMSTERDAM AND COPENHAGEN) AND ULTIMATELY NORTH AMERICA. FINANCING AND PERSONNEL BEHIND THIS TRAFFIC REMAINS UNCLEAR. RECENT SEIZURES OF SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF HASHISH IN WESTERN EUROPE HAS LED SOME TO SUGGEST THAT ROUTE THROUGH ALGERIA AND TUNISIA AND THEN UP THROUGH ITALY IS REPLACING SPANISH ROUTE IN LIGHT OF RECENT SPANISH TIGHTENING OF ITS BORDER CONTROLS. RECENT ARRESTS PROBABLY RESULTED FROM TIPS AND IT IS PRESUMED MUCH MORE HAS ESCAPED ALGERIAN EYES THAN HAS BEEN SEIZED. ALGERIAN AUTHORITIES TO IMPOSE STIFFER BORDER CONTROLS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ALGIER 00283 301216Z

(E) REGIONAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION: N/A

(F) EMBASSY ACTIVITIES: GOA TRAINEE AT DEA SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER/DECEMBER WAS FIRST ALGERIAN RECIPIENT OF US TRAINING IN NARCOTICS. PREVIOUS EMBASSY EFFORTS IN 1972 AND 1973 FOUNDERED ALLEGEDLY BECAUSE OF INTERNAL RIVALRIES AMONG GOA AGENCIES. AGREEMENT TO SEND

TRAINEE AND NOVEMBER RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS SUGGEST SOME SHIFT IN POLITICAL CLIMATE TOWARD CLOSER COOPERATION. APPARENT NEW INFLUX OF TRAFFICERS MAY INDUCE MORE, BUT IMPROVEMENT WILL COME GRADUALLY.

(G) ENFORCEMENT: OVER TWO METRIC TONS OF HASHISH WERE SEIZED BY ALGERIAN AUTHORITIES DURING DECEMBER AND JANUARY. SOME FORTY FOREIGNERS (MOROCCAN, ITALIAN, SWISS, W. GERMAN, SPANISH, DUTCH, DANISH, NORWEGIAN, BRITISH, AMERICAN) HAVE BEEN ARRESTED. ALGERIAN LAW LABELS DRUG TRAFFICKING A MISDEMEANOR ("DELIT") RATHER THAN A CRIME, WITH SENTENCES RANGING FROM THREE MONTHS TO FIVE YEARS IN PRISON AND/OR 900 - 9,000 DOLLAR FINE. THIS IS FIRST NARCOTICS CASE OF ITS SIZE IN ALGERIAN HISTORY, AND ITS MULTI-NATIONAL ASPECTS MAY LEND IT POLITICAL OVERTONES.

(H) INCOME SUBSTITUTION: N/A

(I) TREATMENT/REHABILITATION/EDUCATION: N/A.PARKER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, ANNUAL REPORTS, US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ALGIER00283
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750034-0482
From: ALGIERS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975018/aaaaagtf.tel
Line Count: 135
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 012151
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JAN 2003 by daviscw>; APPROVED <05 JAN 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS/ CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION
TAGS: SNAR, AG, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006